

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 13825 241630Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-10 DHA-05 ERDA-07 NRC-07 ERDE-00 /108 W
-----035598 241633Z /41

O R 241617Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0884
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS BONN 13825

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MNUC, GW, SF, PARM
SUBJECT: FRG STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA AND THE
NUCLEAR QUESTION

ON AUGUST 23, THE FONOFF PRESS OFFICE RELEASED THE
FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH
AFRICA:

BEGIN TEXT

FONMIN GENSCHER AGAIN AND URGENTLY CALLED UPON THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TO ACCEDE TO THE NONPROLIFER-
ATION TREATY. THIS WOULD BE THE BEST WAY POSSIBLE FOR
SOUTH AFRICA TO DISPEL FEARS THAT IT IS SEEKING NUCLEAR
ARMAMENTS AND IS PREPARING NUCLEAR TESTS. A COUNTRY
LIKE SOUTH AFRICA WHICH IS LOCATED IN AN AREA OF
TENSION HAS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MAKING QUITE
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CLEAR THAT IT IS NOT SEEKING THE POSSESSION OF NUCLEAR
ARMS.

THE SPOKESMAN OF THE FONOFF GAVE THE FOLLOWING
SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT:

ALREADY ON AUGUST L3, 1977, FONMIN GENSCHER POINTED

OUT TO SOUTH AFRICAN FONMIN BOTH THE GRAVE IMPORTANCE OF THIS QUESTION, WHEN THE LATTER MADE AN INTERMEDIATE STOP IN FRANKFURT. AT THAT TIME MINISTER GENSCHER SUGGESTED TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN FONMIN THAT SOUTH AFRICA ACCEDE TO THE NONPROLIFERATION TREATY AND EXPRESSED HIS GRAVE CONCERN ABOUT REPORTS OF AN ALLEGEDLY IMMINENT NUCLEAR TEST IN SOUTH AFRICA. FONMIN BOTHA COMMENTED THAT SOUTH AFRICA USES NUCLEAR ENERGY ONLY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES AND DOES NOT PROPOSE TO UNDERTAKE ANY NUCLEAR TESTS.

AT THE INSTRUCTION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THE EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CALLED ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ON AUGUST 10, 1977 TO EXPRESS THE GRAVE CONCERN OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT THE SAME TIME TOOK UP CONSULTATIONS WITH FRANCE, GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ALSO ASSURED OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAD APPROACHED IT ON THIS MATTER THAT NO NUCLEAR TESTS ARE CONTEMPLATED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN13825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770305-1214
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770830/aaaaazdu.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4eb2de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1508654
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA AND THE NUCLEAR QUESTION ON AUGUST 23, THE FONOFF PRESS OFFICE RELEASED THE
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, GE, SF, (GENSCHER, HANS DIETRICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4eb2de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009